



H.R. 1157 – Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 1157 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY) on February 16, 2007. The Committee on Energy and Commerce ordered the bill to be reported, as amended, by voice vote on September 23, 2008.

H.R. 1157 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 25, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 1157 authorizes \$40 million per year for fiscal years 2008-2012 for the National Institutes of Health to conduct breast cancer research at research centers of excellence, focusing on possible environmental causes of the disease. The bill does not specifically direct how the funds should be allocated.

BACKGROUND

According to the National Cancer Institute, "breast cancer is the most common non-skin cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related death in women." The National Cancer Institute estimates that more than 179,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in 2007.

Cancer research indicates that most cases of cancer are linked to environmental causes and, in principle, can be prevented. Environmental factors such as exposure to excessive sunlight or to chemicals, cigarette smoking, diet and lifestyle may contribute to an individual's chances of developing cancer. It is unknown what combination of factors is responsible for a person's specific cancer, including breast cancer.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not produced a cost estimate for H.R. 1157 as of September 25, 2008.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at 6-2302.